

SYSTEMS, METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR MINIMIZING SUBSCRIBER-PERCEIVED DIGITAL VIDEO CHANNEL TUNING DELAY

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A digital STB having multiple decoders is capable of decoding multiple digital video streams simultaneously to minimize the time a subscriber waits before a new channel is tuned and displayed. The STB incorporates a channel look-ahead capability in which one or more digital tuners tune to and decode a next video channel based upon information taken from a subscriber's usage history and information obtained from average subscriber behavior. STB software performs a channel prediction to setup spare tuning and decoding resources to tune to and decode a potential channel the subscriber might select next. The STB can therefore anticipate the subscriber's request and provide a faster response time for channel tuning.